

IN THE CLAIMS

1-99. (canceled).

100. (previously presented) A computer configured through computer software

to present a graphical user interface (GUI) comprising two disjoint sets of labeled fields, a first set and a second set, wherein both the first and second sets are non-empty sets,

to generate a file from data entered into at least some of the labeled fields,
and

to define, responsive to first data entered into the first set of labeled fields, a first subset and a second subset of the second set of labeled fields,

wherein the first subset of the second set of labeled fields is allowed to accept second data and the first subset of the second set of labeled fields contains at least one labeled field, and

wherein the second subset of the second set of labeled fields is inhibited from accepting data, and

wherein the generated file is comprised of individually identifiable data fields filled with the first data and of individually identifiable data fields filled with the second data.

101. (previously presented) The computer as recited in claim 100, wherein the first set of labeled fields contains one field.

102. (previously presented) The computer as recited in claim 100, wherein the first set of labeled fields contains two fields.

103. (previously presented) The computer as recited in claim 102, wherein the first set of labeled fields contains two fields with one of the fields identifying a health insurance payer and one of the fields identifying a medical procedure.
104. (previously presented) The computer as recited in claim 100, wherein at least one field of the first subset of the second set of labeled fields is automatically filled in when data is entered into the first set of labeled fields.
105. (currently amended) A computer configured through computer software
- to present a graphical user interface (GUI) comprising two disjoint sets of labeled fields, a first set and a second set,
- wherein both the first and second sets are non-empty sets, and
- wherein the labeled fields belonging to the first set are allowed to accept first data, and the labeled fields belonging to second set are allowed to accept second data, and
- to generate a file, transmittable to a selected one of M possible recipients, from data entered into at least some of the labeled fields,
- wherein the file format for the generated file is selected from a predetermined set of R file formats, responsive to the first data entered into the first set of labeled fields, [[and]]
- wherein the generated file is comprised of individually identifiable data fields filled with the first data and of individually identifiable data fields filled with the second data[.], and
- wherein R is an integer equal to or greater than two and M is an integer equal to or greater than two.

106. (previously presented) The computer as recited in claim 105, wherein the selected one of the M recipients is selected by entering an unique identifier corresponding to the selected one of the M recipients into a field in the first set of labeled fields.
107. (previously presented) The computer as recited in claim 105, wherein each of the M recipients has associated therewith a unique portion of the computer software.
108. (previously presented) The computer as recited in claim 107, wherein the unique portion of the computer software associated with each of the M recipients contains information specifying the file format to be used for files generated for transmission to that recipient.
109. (previously presented) The computer as recited in claim 107, wherein the unique portion of the computer software associated with each of the M recipients is updated:
- as the file requirements of that particular recipient change;
- independent of the other M recipients; and
- independent of a sender of the transmitted file.
110. (previously presented) The computer as recited in claim 107, wherein the unique portion of the computer software associated with each of the M recipients is accessed and updated by that recipient independently of the remaining M recipients and independently of a sender of the transmitted file.
111. (previously presented) The computer as recited in claim 105, wherein at least some of the data in the identifiable fields of the transmittable file generated can be digitally transferred from the generated file to associated fields of a software application at the selected one of the M recipients.

112. (previously presented) The computer as recited in claim 111, wherein at least some of the data in the identifiable fields of the transmittable file generated can be digitally transferred from the generated file to associated fields of a software application at the selected one of the M recipients without imposing a standard on the transmittable file which forces every one of the M recipients to accept files with the same file format as files generated for all the other M recipients.
113. (previously presented) The computer as recited in claim 111, wherein a sender of the transmitted file can generate the transmittable file wherein at least some of the data in the identifiable fields of the transmittable file generated can be digitally transferred from the generated file to associated fields of a software application at the selected one of the M without said recipient divulging to the sender specifications of its information system.
114. (previously presented) The computer as recited in claim 105, wherein the M recipients and a sender of the transmitted file operate independent computer systems.
115. (previously presented) The computer as recited in claim 105, wherein the GUI provides a single universal interface between a sender of the transmitted file and the M recipients.
116. (previously presented) The computer as recited in claim 105, wherein the computer software resides on a personal computer operated by a sender of the transmitted file.
117. (previously presented) The computer as recited in claim 116, wherein the computer software is automatically updated whenever the file is transmitted to the one of the M recipients.

118. (previously presented) The computer as recited in claim 105, wherein the computer software resides at a value added service on a server computer accessible to a sender of the transmitted file via the Internet.
119. (previously presented) The computer as recited in claim 118, wherein the generated file is transmitted from the server to the selected one of the M recipients.
120. (previously presented) The computer as recited in claim 118, wherein the generated file is archived on a computer permitting access to the server.
121. (previously presented) The computer as recited in claim 118, wherein:
- the file is completed on the server;
- the completed file is downloaded to the accessing computer; and
- the completed file is transmitted to the chosen one of the M recipients from the accessing computer.
122. (previously presented) The computer as recited in claim 105, wherein a first portion of the second set of labeled fields is automatically filled in with data when the file is opened.
123. (previously presented) The computer as recited in claim 105, wherein a second portion of the second set of labeled fields is automatically filled in with data when data is entered into the first set of labeled fields.
124. (currently amended) The computer as recited in claim 105, where the file generated is a transaction ~~form~~ file to be transmitted to a selected one of the M recipients.

125. (previously presented) The computer as recited in claim 124, wherein the generated file corresponds to a health insurance claim form.
126. (previously presented) The computer as recited in claim 125, wherein at least one of the fields of the second set of labeled fields requests a health insurance claim form attachment.
127. (previously presented) The computer as recited in claim 105, wherein:
- the first set of labeled fields contains two fields
- wherein a first labeled field requests a unique identifier associated with a health insurance payer and
- wherein a second labeled field request a unique code associated with a medical procedure.
128. (currently amended) The computer as recited in claim 127, wherein once the first and second labeled fields of the first set of fields have been populated with respective data, the remaining labeled fields of the GUI identify additional data the health insurance payer requires to support the claim for the specified medical-service procedure.
129. (previously presented) The computer as recited in claim 105, wherein at least one of the labeled fields of the second set of labeled fields accepts a computer file.
130. (previously presented) The computer as recited in claim 105, wherein at least one of the labeled fields of the second set of labeled fields accepts a digital image.
131. (previously presented) The computer as recited in claim 105, wherein at least one of the labeled fields of the second set of labeled fields accepts a word processor document.

132. (previously presented) The computer as recited in claim 105, wherein at least one of the labeled fields of the second set of labeled fields accepts a digital graph.
133. (previously presented) The computer as recited in claim 105, wherein at least one of the labeled fields of the second set of labeled fields accepts a digital sound recording.
134. (previously presented) The computer as recited in claim 105, where at least one of the labeled fields of the second set of labeled fields accepts a digitized video signal.
135. (previously presented) The computer as recited in claim 105, wherein first and second files generated during first and second sessions initiated by a user have first and second file formats permitting at least some of the data in the respective identifiable fields to be transferred to associated fields in software applications operated by first and second ones of the M recipients, respectively.
136. (new) The computer as recited in claim 105, wherein the generated file is comprised of individually identifiable data fields filled with the first data and of individually identifiable data fields filled with the second data and wherein there is a one-to-one mapping between the filled labeled fields of the GUI and the filled individually identifiable fields of the file.
137. (new) The computer as recited in claim 105, wherein the identity of each of the individually identifiable fields is determined based on its position relative to the other fields in the file, all of said fields being in a predetermined order in the file.

138. (new) A computer configured through computer software

to present a graphical user interface (GUI) comprising two disjoint sets of labeled fields, a first set and a second set, wherein both the first and second sets are non-empty sets,

to generate a file, transmittable to a selected one of M possible recipients, from data entered into at least some of the labeled fields,

to define, in response to first data entered into the first set of labeled fields, a first subset and a second subset of the second set of labeled fields,

wherein the first subset of the second set of labeled fields is allowed to accept second data and the first subset of the second set of labeled fields contains at least one labeled field, and

wherein the second subset of the second set of labeled fields is inhibited from accepting data, and

to specify, in response to first data entered into the first set of labeled fields, a file format for the generated file,

wherein the file format for the generated file is selected from a predetermined set of R file formats, and

wherein the generated file is comprised of individually identifiable data fields filled with the first data and of individually identifiable data fields filled with the second data, and

wherein R is an integer equal to or greater than two and M is an integer equal to or greater than two.

139. (new) The computer as recited in claim 138, wherein the selected one of the M recipients is selected by entering a unique identifier corresponding to the selected one of the M recipients into a field in the first set of labeled fields.

140. (new) The computer as recited in claim 138, wherein each of the M recipients has associated therewith a unique portion of the computer software.

141. (new) The computer as recited in claim 140, wherein the unique portion of the computer software associated with each of the M recipients contains information specifying the file format to be used for files generated for transmission to that recipient and it contains information specifying which of the labeled fields in the second set of labeled fields are to be in the first subset of the second set of labeled fields for files generated for transmission to that recipient.

142. (new) The computer as recited in claim 140, wherein the unique portion of the computer software associated with each of the M recipients is updated:

as the file requirements of that particular recipient changes;

independent of the other M recipients; and

independent of a sender of the transmitted file.

143. (new) The computer as recited in claim 140, wherein the unique portion of the computer software associated with each of the M recipients is accessed and updated by that recipient independently of the remaining M recipients and independently of a sender of the transmitted file.

144. (new) The computer as recited in claim 138, wherein at least some of the data in the identifiable fields of the transmittable file generated can be digitally transferred from the

generated file to associated fields of a software application at the selected one of the M recipients.

145. (new) The computer as recited in claim 144, wherein at least some of the data in the identifiable fields of the transmittable file generated can be digitally transferred from the generated file to associated fields of a software application at the selected one of the M recipients without imposing a standard on the transmittable file which forces every one of the M recipients to accept files with the same format and the same individually identifiable fields as files generated for all the other M recipients.

146. (new) The computer as recited in claim 144, wherein a sender of the transmitted file can generate the transmittable file such that at least some of the data in the identifiable fields of the transmittable file can be digitally transferred from the generated file to associated fields of a software application at the selected one of the M recipients without said recipient divulging to the sender specifications of its information system.

147. (new) The computer as recited in claim 138, wherein the M recipients and sender of the transmitted file operate independent computer systems.

148. (new) The computer as recited in claim 138, wherein the GUI provides a single universal interface between sender of the transmitted file and the M recipients.

149. (new) The computer as recited in claim 138, wherein the computer software resides on a personal computer operated by a sender of the transmitted file.

150. (new) The computer as recited in claim 149, wherein the computer software is automatically updated whenever the file is transmitted to the one of the M recipients.

151. (new) The computer as recited in claim 138, wherein the computer software resides at a value added service on a server computer accessible to a sender of the transmitted file via the Internet.

152. (new) The computer as recited in claim 151, wherein the file generated is transmitted from the server to the selected one of the M recipients.

153. (new) The computer as recited in claim 151, wherein the generated file is archived on a computer permitting access to the server.

154. (new) The computer as recited in claim 138, wherein a first portion of the first subset of the second set of labeled fields is automatically filled in with data when the file is opened.

155. (new) The computer as recited in claim 138, wherein a second portion of the first subset of the second set of labeled fields is automatically filled in with data when data is entered into the first set of labeled fields.

156. (new) The computer as recited in claim 138, where the generated file is a transaction file to be transmitted to a selected one of the M recipients.

157. (new) The computer as recited in claim 138, wherein the generated file corresponds to a health insurance claim form.

158. (new) The computer as recited in claim 157, wherein at least one of the labeled fields of the first subset of the second set of labeled fields requests a health insurance claim form attachment.

159. (new) The computer as recited in claim 158, wherein the health insurance claim form attachment requested comprises one or more of the following: x-rays, CTs, MRIs, EKGs, EEGs, strip charts, digitized video signals, transcriptions of Operating Room Notes, or additional ASCII text.

160. (new) The computer as recited in claim 157, wherein:

the first set of labeled fields contains two labeled fields

wherein a first labeled field requests a unique identifier associated with a health insurance payer and

wherein a second labeled field request a unique code associated with a medical procedure.

161. (new) The computer as recited in claim 160, wherein once the first and second labeled fields of the first set of labeled fields have been populated with respective data, the remaining labeled fields of the first subset of the second set of labeled fields identify additional data the health insurance payer requires to support a claim for the specified medical procedure.

162. (new) The computer as recited in claim 138, wherein at least one of the labeled fields of the first subset of the second set of labeled fields accepts a computer file.

163. (new) The computer as recited in claim 138, wherein at least one of the labeled fields of the first subset of the second set of labeled fields accepts a digital image.

164. (new) The computer as recited in claim 138, wherein at least one of the labeled fields of the first subset of the second set of labeled fields accepts a word processor document.

165. (new) The computer as recited in claim 138, wherein at least one of the labeled fields of the first subset of the second set of labeled fields accepts a digital graph.

166. (new) The computer as recited in claim 138, wherein at least one of the labeled fields of the first subset of the second set of labeled fields accepts a digital sound recording.

167. (new) The computer as recited in claim 138, wherein at least one of the labeled fields of the first subset of the second set of labeled fields accepts a digitized video signal.

168. (new) The computer as recited in claim 138, wherein the generated file is comprised of individually identifiable data fields filled with the first data and of individually identifiable data fields filled with the second data and wherein there is a one-to-one mapping between the filled labeled fields of the GUI and the filled individually identifiable fields of the file.

169. (new) The computer as recited in claim 138, wherein the identity of each of the individually identifiable fields is determined based on its position relative to the other fields in the file, all of said fields being in a predetermined order in the file.